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August 2,1901

### 1765

#### MORTUARY STATISTICS.

Pneumonia	5 Total number deaths from	all causes 128
	IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT.	
	om Mexican ports	

No cases of sickness occurred during the stay of any of these passengers who were detained to complete five days from port of departure.

## Report on Santiago de las Vegas.

## HAVANA, CUBA, July 23, 1901.

SIR: In accordance with your instructions of the 20th instant, I proceeded to Santiago de las Vegas, and have the honor to submit the following report upon the sanitary condition of that town:

Santiago de las Vegas is a town of about 8,000 inhabitants (of whom 600 are nonimmunes), located on the line of the United Western Railway, 20 kilometers from Havana, and connected also with that city by a highway. The town is in a large tobacco district and the population depends mainly on that industry for a livelihood—The inhabitants are very poor, living in small, overcrowded, badly lighted houses amidst great squalor and filth. There are no sewers. The latrines empty into pits and cesspools. These becoming filled are abandoned and new ones made. No attempt on the part of the municipal authorities is made toward sanitation, and but little, if any, on the part of individuals in the care of their dwellings. The water supply is obtained from cisterns, though there are a few wells. The water, however, seems to be good.

During the Spanish régime, Santiago de las Vegas was used by the military authorities as a place of acclimatization for the newly arrived soldiers, quartering them in barracks erected for that purpose. It is probable that yellow fever existed to some extent among these troops; and it is equally probable that the town, if not infected before, became so then.

The working population consists almost entirely of nonimmune Spaniards, employed in the 2 tobacco factories. These men are all members of the Spanish beneficial societies, and upon the slightest suspicion of illness are transferred to the hospitals in Havana. In this way yellow fever could be easily contracted in Santiago de las Vegas and credited to Havana. There are some rumors of cases of yellow fever having existed during the early part of this year; but unfortunately they can not be substantiated.

Of the 4 cases recently reported all were tobacco workers employed in the factories. The resident medical men deny all knowledge of these cases, and the people are extremely loth to give any information, fearing, no doubt, the closing of their places of business.

It is probable that almost all the small towns in the tobacco district where there are employed large numbers of nonimmune Spaniards, as well as Santiago de las Vegas, are infected, the cases being either credited to Havana or not reported by the Spanish quintas.

From the 4 or 5 cases having occurred in as many different houses in Santiago de las Vegas, and the general sanitary condition of the town, together with the large number of nonimmunes, it is probable that

many new cases will develop unless active means are taken to prevent the spread of the disease.

Respectfully,

E. F. McConnell,

Acting Assistant Surgeon, U.S. M. H. S.

Surg. A. H. GLENNAN,

Chief Quarantine Officer for the Island of Cuba.

The two cases of yellow fever at Cienfuegos.

[Case No. 1.]

CIENFUEGOS, CUBA, July 16, 1901.

SIR: I have the honor to submit the following history of the case of

yellow fever reported to you by telegraph yesterday:

The patient, Luis Fernandez Garcia, is a native of Corunna, Spain, 38 years of age, a fisherman by occupation and living between Nos. 12 and 14 Independence avenue, in a lower-class tenement house, at the rear of a yard, occupied by 8 familes, all of them Cubans with the exception of 2 Spaniards, who claim to be immune to yellow fever. The house is in the southeast end of the city, at a distance of about 200 yards from the water front; is an old wooden house with a central partition dividing it into 4 small compartments on either side, with a corridor on each front, with flooring, extending the length of the building; the whole not being kept very clean.

Fernandez arrived in Havana in the month of October, 1900, three days afterwards proceeded to the Hormiguero sugar plantation in this district, where he secured a position and lived until five months ago. In March last he arrived in this city, and has lived since then in the same house where he was taken sick.

According to information from his roommate, Fernandez was taken sick about 7 p. m., July 11—that is, five days ago. No physician, to my knowledge, was called in to see the case until he was taken for admission to the civil hospital yesterday noon. He was examined at the gate and immediately conveyed to the lazaretto where he is isolated.

His condition yesterday afternoon was as follows: Temperature, 39.4; pulse, 70; respiration, 22; sclerotics highly jaundiced; intense frontal headache; tenderness on pressure over epigastrium and back; nausea and vomiting; urine scanty and dark, containing about 40 per cent of albumin; his mind somewhat wandering; complaining of intense weakness and wakefulness. The case may be considered a severe one. This case originated in a section of the town not considered to ever have been an infected area.

Respectfully,

EDWARD F. NUNEZ,

Acting Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S., In Temporary Charge.

Surg. A. H. GLENNAN, U. S. M. H. S., Chief Quarantine Officer for the Island of Cuba.

[Case No. 2.]

CIENFUEGOS, CUBA, July 19, 1901.

SIR: I have the honor to transmit the following history of the second case of yellow fever, reported to you by wire, and investigated yesterday:

This case occurred in the center of the city, at a hardware store, 15 San Fernando street, situated between DeCluet and Hourrutiner streets,